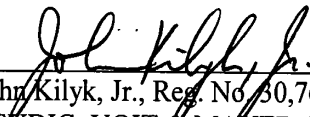


REMARKS

The claims have been amended to comport with U.S. patent practice by removing multiple claim dependencies. In addition, some dependent claims have been canceled to reduce the official filing fee. No new matter has been added by way of these claim amendments. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 11, 2005

Amendment - Preliminary (Revised 2005 05-09)